Church Committee: JFK Assassination, Oswald Security Case (B5.ApA)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psRMH7ol8oI (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psRMH7ol8oI)

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'Our Hidden History' Audiobooks: https://sellfy.com/OurHiddenHistory More Church Committee Reports: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBINnEpNu5u5DDKZr3zRDb9v_Q2pV55dA ---- This is an audio recording of a section of the Final Report of the Church Committee (United States Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities) on the Investigation into the Assassination of John F. Kennedy: The Performance of the Intelligence Agencies (Book 5 Appendix A). This is a recording of Appendix A of Book 5, The FBI and the Oswald Security Case.

About Book 5 of the Church Committee Report (from the Mary Ferrel Website): "The Church Committee also conducted a limited investigation of the Kennedy assassination, focusing on how well the FBI and CIA supported the Warren Commission. This short report sharply faulted those agencies, stating that the Committee 'developed evidence which impeaches the process by which the intelligence agencies arrived at their own conclusions about the assassination, and by which they provided information to the Warren Commission. This evidence indicates that the investigation of the assassination was deficient.'"

For the full book, visit the Mary Ferrell Foundation: https://www.maryferrell.org/showDoc.html?docId=1161

Produced by D. Giglio for 'Our Hidden History' and Narrated by Megan Rutledge (https://www.fiverr.com/calisto2986)

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From the report: The Select Committee's investigation of alleged assassination attempts against foreign leaders raised questions of possible connections between these plots and the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. Questions were later raised about whether the agencies adequately investigated these possible connections and whether information about these plots was provided the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy (the Warren Commission). As a result pursuant to its general mandate to review the performance of the intelligence agencies the Select Committee reviewed their specific performance with respect to their investigation of the assassination of the President.

A The Scope of the Committee's Investigation

The Committee did not attempt to duplicate the work of the Warren Commission It did not review the findings and conclusions of the Warren Commission It did not re-examine the physical evidence which the Warren Commission had It did not review one of the principal questions facing the Commission whether Lee Harvey Oswald was in fact the assassin of President Kennedy.

Instead building upon the Select Committee's earlier work and utilizing its access to the agencies and its expertise in their functions the Committee examined the performance of the intelligence agencies in conducting their investigation of the assassination and their relationships to the Warren Commission.

In the course of this investigation more than 50 witnesses were either interviewed or deposed Literally tens of thousands of pages of documentary evidence were reviewed at the agencies and more than 1,000 pages were acquired In addition the Committee relied a great deal on testimony taken during the course of its investigation of alleged plots to assassinate foreign leaders especially testimony relating to knowledge of those plots.

The Committee has been impressed with the ability and dedication of most of those in the intelligence community Most officials of the FBI the CIA and other agencies performed their assigned tasks thoroughly competently and professionally Supervisors at agency headquarters similarly met their responsibilities and are deserving of the highest praise Yet as this Report documents these individuals did not have access to all of the information held by the most senior officials in their own agencies Nor did they control or even influence many of the decisions made by those senior officials decisions which shaped the investigation and the process by which information was provided to the Warren Commission Thus it can not be too strongly emphasized that this Report examines the performance of the senior agency officials in light of the information available to them.

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the investigation of the assassination of President John F Kennedy performance of the Intelligence Agency's book 5 final report of the Select Committee to study governmental operations with respect to intelligence activities United States Senate April 23rd 1976 Appendix A the FBI and the Oswald security case a Oswald's defection on October 31st 1959 after learning that Lee Harvey Oswald had defected to the Soviet Union and informed officials at the American Embassy in Moscow that he intended to provide radar secrets to the Soviet Union the FBI opened a security case with Oswald as the subject as part of the investigation the bureau meeting queries of the Navy and discovered that Oswald did not have knowledge of strategic information that would benefit the Soviets the FBI concluded that a stop should be placed against Oswald's fingerprints to prevent him from obtaining a passport and entering the United States under any name about six months later the bureau interviewed Oswald's mother who believed that he had taken his birth certificate with him to the Soviet Union in a memorandum subsequently sent to the State Department the FBI raised the possibility that an imposter might attempt to return to the United States using Oswald's identity B Oswald's return to the United States despite this concern that an impostor might attempt to enter the United States using Oswald's identity the FBI did not

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Oswald's identity the FBI did not interview Oswald until almost three weeks after his return On June 13 1962 footnote Oswald was interviewed at the dock by an Immigration and Naturalization Service inspector on his return to the United States and footnote there is no indication that any of the FBI agents assigned to the Oswald case were ever warned that an impostor might attempt to assume Oswald's identity in particular Special Agent James hasti the FBI agent responsible for the Oswald case at the Dallas field office testified that he had neither seen a copy of the June 3rd 1960 memorandum nor attempted to determine whether someone had assumed Oswald's identity footnote the committee has found no evidence that an imposter entered the United States in Oswald stead and footnote On June 26th 1962 special agents John W Fane and B Tom Carter interviewed Oswald in Fort Worth Texas according to sa phanes report Oswald was cold arrogant and difficult to interview Oswald denied that he told State Department officials at the American Embassy in Moscow that he was going to one renounce his American citizenship to applied for Soviet citizenship and three reveal radar secrets to the Soviets when fain asked Oswald to take a polygraph test Oswald refused to even be polygraphed on

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Oswald refused to even be polygraphed on whether he had dealings with Soviet intelligence footnote the Warren Commission apparently was not provided with the administrative cover pages of SA fans report which discussed Oswald's refusal to be polygraphed nor did fain report Oswald's refusal to be polygraphed when he testified before the Warren Commission on May 6th 1964 despite detailed questioning by commission members Ford and Dulles as to the discrepancies in Oswald's statements and feigns reaction to them and footnote Oswald also denied he had traveled to the Soviet Union because quote of a lack of sympathy for the institutions of the United States end quote a second interview on August 16th 1962 yielded similar denials despite Oswald's attitude and demonstratable lies the bureau closed the Oswald's security case on August 20th 1962 it was not to be reopened until March 26 1963 the only additional action taken by the bureau before March 26th 1963 consisted of reviews of the oswald file at the Department of State inquiries of to low-level Dallas Communist Party informants as to whether they knew of Oswald with negative responses and interviews with three of Oswald's relatives although wide-ranging interviews for a basic investigative technique commonly used by the bureau to develop background information on subjects of security investigations no neighborhood or employment sources were checked in

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employment sources were checked in Oswald's case nor was his wife interviewed footnote assistant director Gail commented upon this failure in his memorandum of December 10th 1963 where he wrote quote no neighborhood or employment sources developed wife not interviewed no meal covers or other techniques were used to determine whom Oswald in contact with or whether he had an intelligence assignment inspector feels this limited investigation inadequate Dallas agent possible for delinquencies now retired and no explanations obtained from him and quote the FBI did not interview Marina Oswald prior to the assassination although Marina Oswald was considered in June 1962 for a bureau program which monitored the activities of Soviet immigrants and rhe Patriots to detect possible foreign intelligence ties the Dallas field office supervisor postponed consideration of her for the program on July 25th 1962 noting that quote her activities could be sufficiently monitored in connection with the security case on Lee Harvey Oswald and quote Hoover as noted above the FBI security case on Lee Harvey Oswald was closed less than a month later with respect to Oswald x' marriage to marina and her return to the United States the Warren Commission stated as Wald's marriage to Marina prusik OVA on April 30th 1961 is itself a fact meriting consideration before iner living in

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consideration before iner living in Russia cannot marry without the permission of the Soviet government it seems unlikely that the Soviet authorities would have permitted Oswald to marry and to take his wife with him to the United States if they were contemplating using him alone as an agent the fact that he had a Russian wife would be likely in their view to increase any surveillance under which he would be kept by American security agencies would make him even more conspicuous to his neighbors as an ex-russian and would decrease his mobility a wife's presence in the United States would also constitute a continuing risk of disclosure on the other hand marina Oswald's lack of English training and her complete ignorance of the United States and its customs would scarcely recommend her to the Soviet authorities as one member of an agent team to be sent to the United States on a difficult and dangerous foreign enterprise in contrast a retired Bureau Soviet section supervisor told the committee that of greatest concern to him in the Oswald case was the fact that the Soviets had allowed marina to return to the United States with Oswald he felt that if they desired to quote tap Oswald on the shoulder and make use of him at some future date marinas presence would give them a great deal of leverage and quote the supervisor explained quote the Russians might try to exert leverage possibly through her relatives or threats to her relatives in Russia and that sort of thing however it should be emphasized that the supervisor testified that he is not aware of any evidence

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that he is not aware of any evidence which establishes that the Soviets in fact used or attempted to contact Oswald see the continued investigation Dallas on September 28th 1962 the New York field office learned that Oswald subscribed to the worker which the bureau characterized as quote an East Coast tanja NIST newspaper and quote and subsequently informed the Dallas field office from the FBI's perspective Oswald's subscription to this newspaper contradicted his interview statements that he was quote disenchanted with the Soviet Union end quote Oswald's subscription was noted in his field office security file but FBI headquarters was not informed of the subscription until September 10th 1963 and then only after had requested information on Oswald from the Dallas office assistant director Gale critically commented on this aspect of the bureau's handling of the Oswald case quote in light of Oswald's defection the case should have been reopened at the first indication of Communists sympathy or activity footnote director Hoover noted on November 29th 1963 that quote in Oswald's case there was no indication of repentance but only one of openly avowed hostility and contacts with subversive elements end quote none of the bureau's internal criticism of its own handling of the Oswald security case or even the fact that

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security case or even the fact that there was such criticism was ever made known to the Warren Commission end quote in October 1962 as a host E was assigned the Marina Oswald security case which was then in a pending inactive status the file was reviewed by Haas T in March 1963 when he also located Marina Oswald but he did not interview her because of her alleged marital difficulties hasti reviewed the Dallas security file on Oswald and on the basis of Oswald's subscription to the worker requested approval to reopen the case on March 26th 1963 pasti received approval hasti stated that he did not interview Marina Oswald because he had developed information that Oswald had been drinking to excess and beating his wife and the relevant FBI manual provision required that he allow a cooling-off period footnote the committee has verified that since such a manual provision was in effect it appears that hostage decision to allow a cooling-off period prior to interviewing marina was entirely in accordance with FBI regulations neither the documents nor the testimony of knowledgeable FBI officers provides any explanation for either Hoover or Gail's critical comments and footnote FBI director Hoover later commented on the December 10th 1963 Gale memorandum that quote this was certainly an asinine excuse and quote end quote I just don't

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excuse and quote end quote I just don't understand such solicitude and quote inspector Gale had written that quote this entire facet of the investigation was mishandled mrs. Oswald definitely should have been interviewed and the best time to get information from her would be after she was beaten up by her husband end quote the director added the following notation next to Gail's conclusion quote this certainly makes sense end quote on April 21st 1963 the New York field office learned that Oswald had written a letter to the fair play for Cuba committee this was the first indication in Bureau files that Oswald had a relationship with this pro-castro organization Oswald's letter stated that he had passed out FPC C literature in Dallas with a placard around his neck reading quote hands off Cuba Viva Fidel end quote this information was not reported to Dallas until June 27th 1963 and not reported to headquarters until September 10th 1963 once again Oswald's activities contradicted his interview statements on May 27th 1963 hasti returned to the Oswald's Neeley Street residents to interview marina and was informed that the Oswald's had moved from the Dallas area without leaving a forwarding address in response to an essay see memorandum issued by the Dallas office seeking information on the Oswald's whereabouts the New Orleans

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Oswald's whereabouts the New Orleans office informed Dallas on July 17th 1963 that the Oswald's were living in that city the bureau apparently learned of Oswald's presence in New Orleans from a letter he had written to the worker On June 26 1963 Oswald claimed in the letter to be a longtime subscriber and stated that he was forming an F PCC chapter in New Orleans he enclosed honorary membership cards for quote those fighters for peace end quote mr. Gus hall secretary-general of the Communist Party USA and

Benjamin Davis National Secretary of the Communist Party USA on September 10th 1963 New Orleans became the office for the Oswald case d the continued investigation New Orleans Oswald was arrested on August 9th 1963 in New Orleans in connection with his FPC C activities and charged with quote disturbing the peace by creating a scene and quote footnote there is no indication in FBI documents or the Warren Commission's record that Oswald was in New Orleans on any occasion between October 1959 and April 24th 1963 however an Immigration and Naturalization Service inspector testified before the committee that he is absolutely certain that he interviewed Lee Harvey Oswald in a New Orleans jail cell sometime shortly before his April 1st 1963 transfer out

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before his April 1st 1963 transfer out of New Orleans although the inspector is not now certain whether Oswald was using that particular name at that time he is certain that Oswald was quote claiming to be a Cuban alien and quote and that he quote interviewed Oswald to verify or disprove this status and quote the inspector neither recalls what Oswald said nor what language or languages he conversed in he does not recall anything unusual about Oswald's dress or demeanor and believes that he quickly ascertained that Oswald was not a Cuban alien at which time he would have left Oswald in his jail cell On January 6th 1976 the committee staff telephonically contacted the New Orleans Police Department and requested that they review their Oswald arrest records to see if he had been arrested other than on August 9th 1963 On January 7th the staff was informed that there was no record of another Oswald arrest and that the New Orleans Police Department in fact had no information on Oswald prior to August 9th 1963 and footnote on the morning of August 10th Oswald asked to see a bureau agent and he was interviewed at length by si John L Quigley Oswald also repeatedly lied to this FBI agent for example he told quickly that he had met and married his wife in Fort Worth Texas the New Orleans office learned on August

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office learned on August 22nd 1963 that Oswald participated in a radio program where he stated that he was a Marxist and that quote Cuba is the only real revolutionary country in the world today end quote on August 23rd 1963 the New Orleans office was instructed by headquarters to quote submit results of their Oswald investigation to the bureau and quote on September 24th 1963 the New Orleans office advised the bureau that the investigation was continuing and that a report detailing the investigative findings would be furnished an investigative report was subsequently sent to the bureau on October 31st 1963 but it did not contain any significant information that was not already in Oswald's headquarters file the report reveals that only two informants in the New Orleans area were asked about Oswald and that neither had heard of him on October 2nd 1963 agents of the New Orleans office attempted to ascertain Oswald's residence and place of employment they learned that the Oswald's had left New Orleans leads to locate Oswald were sent to Dallas Fort Worth and Malvern Arkansas the evidence indicates that Lee Harvey Oswald was in Mexico City from September 27th 1963 through October 2nd 1963 on October 10th 1963 Bureau headquarters was provided with a copy of a CIA cable which stated that quote Lee Henry Oswald

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that quote Lee Henry Oswald and quote had been in contact with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City on September 28 1963 footnote all the information that the FBI prior to November 22nd 1963 on Oswald's activities in Mexico City came from the CIA on October 3rd 1963 the CIA Mexico station reported to headquarters that Oswald had been in contact with the Soviet embassy on October 10th 1963 CIA headquarters passed this information with some background material to the Navy the State Department and the FBI the Mexico station made a similar distribution to FBI and state Department officials in Mexico since Oswald was an American citizen and since FBI was the responsible agency disseminating this information and did CIA's responsibility in this matter and quote it was not until October 22nd 1963 that information pertaining to Oswald's Mexico City trip was provided to the New Orleans office si hasti in Dallas had by chance ascertained similar information from the local I and NS office and coincidentally his report detailing

this information was received in New Orleans on October 22nd 1963 thus despite the fact that both the Dallas and New Orleans field offices were aware that Oswald had been in contact with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City there is no evidence that either of these field offices intensified their efforts to locate and

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intensified their efforts to locate and interview Oswald most surprising however is that the quote Soviet experts and quote at FBI headquarters did not intensify their efforts in the Oswald case after being informed that Oswald had met with vice consul Costa qov at the Soviet embassy in Mexico City not only were these experts familiar with Soviet activities in general but they knew that Costa cough was a member of the KGB further the bureau's Soviet experts had reason to believe he was an agent within the KGB's Department which carries out assassination and sabotage they were also aware that American citizen contacts with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City were extremely rare ironically the teletype which informed the bureau of Oswald's Mexico City activities was sitting on a pile of documents on a headquarters supervisors desk awaiting initial action on November 22nd 1963 that portion of the Gail memorandum which discusses Oswald's Mexico City trip reads as follows quote the SOG seat of government supervisor failed to take any action on the teletypes stating it did not appear to him any action was warranted inspector Gale feels the field should have been instructed to intensify investigation and Oswald placed on security index n quote II continued investigation Dallas on October 26 1963 the New Orleans field office advised the Dallas office that the Oswald's had left

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Dallas office that the Oswald's had left a forwarding address in Irving Texas Dallas was asked to verify the new residence and on October 30th 1963 sa hasti reported that although Oswald's family was living with the Payne family in Irving Oswald was not living there on November 1st 1963 hasti went to the pain residence to quote find out where Oswald was residing and quote footnote it should be noted that under the relevant FBI manual provisions then in effect any contact such as Oswalt's with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City required that immediate investigative action at the appropriate field office be undertaken however it should be further noted that other provisions precluded the field offices interviewing Oswald without the express written approval or a direction of headquarters and footnote rue Spain informed hasti that she did not know where Oswald lived however she did state that Oswald was employed at the Texas Book Depository toward the end of the interview Marina Oswald came into the room according to hasti she expressed fear of the bureau and their brief conversation with Ruth Payne translating was an attempt to reassure her after the assassination the Dallas office explained to FBI headquarters that the investigation had been delayed to quote be sure that it was in possession of all information from New Orleans end quote inspector Gale commented on this explanation in his December 10th

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this explanation in his December 10th 1963 memorandum quote inspector definitely does not agree New Orleans submitted 16 page report 1030 163 and only leads outstanding in New Orleans were to ascertain Oswald's whereabouts no indication New Orleans had any further data even if New Orleans had not reported all information in their possession Dallas should have intensified investigation in light of Oswald's contact with Soviet embassy in Mexico City and not held investigation in abeyance and quote finally it should be noted that facts publicly disclosed by the bureau in October 1975 establish that some two weeks prior to the assassination Lee Harvey Oswald visited the FBI's Dallas field office and left a note for Special Agent James P hasti jr. and that the note was subsequently destroyed the circumstances surrounding the receipt and destruction of the Oswald note are discussed in Appendix B

END